Ministry of Rural Development had also a centrally sponsored scheme under which assistance used to be given to State Governments/Union Territories in the form of subsidy for construction of rural godowns. This scheme was transferred to State Governments/Union Territories w.e.f. 1-4-1992. The central financial assistance provided under this scheme for setting up of rural godowns is as under:—

(Rs. in crores)

	Financial assistance released	No. of godowns approved	Capacity (in lakh tonnes)
All India	43.80	4825	28.442
Orissa	0.81	137	0.748

Licences issued for sugar mills

1588. SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH MANN: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) the number of licences issued for sugar mills since the last one year;

(b) the number of sugar mills State-wise for which licences wide issued;

(c) how many of them are in public sector, private sector or joint sector separately; and

(d) by when the delicensing process of sugar mills will commence?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) to (c) No letter of intent has been issued for setting up of new sugar mills in the country during the last sugar year 1992-93 (October-September). However, 74 letters of intent have been issued during the current 1993-94 sugar year till 30.6.1994. A statement showing the State-wise and Sector-wise number of letters of intent issued is enclosed (see below).

(d) The present licensing policy of sugar mills, including the option of delicensing, is under examination.

Statement

State-wise and Sector-wise details of 74 letters of intent issued during 1993-94 Sugar Season.

(As on 30-6-1994)

Sl. No	State	No. of Letters of Intent issued			
		Public	Private	Cooperative	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Haryana	1	2	1	4
2.	Uttar Pradesh	..	24	1	25
3.	Madhya Pradesh	..	2	..	2
4.	Gujarat	..	..	2	2
5.	Maharashtra	..	..	17	17

1	2	3	4	5	6
6	Bihar	..	1	..	1
7	Orissa	1	..	..	1
8	Andhra Pradesh	..	15	..	15
9	Karnataka	..	..	4	5
10	Tamil Nadu	..	2	..	
	TOTAL	2	47	25	74

Shortage of sugar supply

1589. SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA:
SHRI ANANTRAY DEVSHANKER DAVE:

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware about the shortage of sugar supply due to fall in its production;

(b) the steps that led to import of sugar and how and when the decision was taken to import sugar.

(c) what was the international prices of sugar when the shortage in sugar supply was first estimated; and

(d) at what rate sugar has been purchased in the international market and sold in India to wholesalers and to consumers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Due to decrease in sugar production during 1992-93 season and the current season, it was anticipated that there would be shortfall in the availability of sugar. To contain the prices of sugar and ensure adequate availability during the remaining part of current season and early part of next season, it was decided to allow import of sugar under Open General Licence (OGL) and a statement to this effect was made in Parliament on 15-3-1994. The average London Daily Price of sugar in March, 1994 was $ 340.38 f.o.b.

(d) The import of sugar has been placed under Open General Licence. As such the rates at which sugar has been contracted/purchased by various private importers under this facility are not available with Government. The private importers are themselves arranging sales of the sugar brought into India by them at rates determined by market forces/demand and supply and the Government has no role to play in these sales.

The average C.I.F. rate at which State Trading Corporation/Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation Limited have contracted for import of sugar was about US $ 387 per Metric Tonne. This sugar will be sold through the Public Distribution System to consumers at Rs. 9.05 per Kg.

उत्तर प्रदेश में बन्द पड़ी चीनी मिलें

1590. चौधरी हरमोहन सिंह : क्या खाद्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) इस समय उत्तर प्रदेश में कौन कौन सी चीनी मिलें बन्द पड़ी हैं;

(ख) उन्हें फिर से चालू करने के लिये क्या-क्या कदम उठाये गये हैं ;